Appl. No. 10/623,897 Amdt. dated August 19, 2004 Preliminary Amendment Attorney Docket K-1768

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the specification, the paragraphs [040], [041] and [042] have been amended to correct minor editorial issues.

Favorable action of the above identified application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Kennametal Inc. P. O. Box 231 Latrobe, PA 15650 (724) 539-5485 Phone (724) 539-5903 Fax

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 33,423

Date: August 19, 2004